

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 16, 2000 LB 1363

assessment of where Nebraska is with its immigrant workforce and find answers to help us in the future. LB 1363 creates a task force on the productive integration of an immigrant workforce into our population. The task force will be comprised of 16 members having knowledge and experience in the areas of immigration and work. The task force will be appointed by the Governor, the Legislature, and the director of the Mexican-American Commission. The director of the Mexican-American Commission will appoint someone from the field of immigration law, one from the field of health care, two representatives from secondary education, two representatives from labor, one representative in housing, one representative from the Mexican-American Commission, and a representative from the Equal Opportunity Commission. The Governor will appoint someone from the packing or manufacturing industry and someone from the Department of Health and Human Services, and one person from the Department of Labor. The Chairman of the Executive Board of the Legislature will appoint two members of the Legislature. We, hopefully, will do a couple things--we'll assess where we are now, the task force will investigate current statutes and practices of the state and local governments regarding the access to human services, such as education, housing, transportation, health issues, and we'll look at where we ought to go. The task force will conduct a study to assess the impact of integration of immigrant workers into communities and how that affects delivery of services. We'll look at the best practices in the area of immigrant workforce. The task force will have the ability and the responsibility to make significant recommendations to us, the Legislature, in regard to what the state's reaction should be. In an attempt to control the amount of spending on the bill, the funds have been limited to \$25,000. This should provide a limited financial resource for a meaningful, if not somewhat small study to be conducted. So I want to, in conclusion, do two things--look at where we are and project where we ought to go in the future. That ends my clos...opening.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kiel would move to amend with AM2856. (Legislative Journal page 1095.)